

1 RACHAEL BUCKLEY
2 5601 Raymond Court
3 Shingle Springs, CA 95682
4 (530) 672-9383 (916) 947-3448
5 Co-Debtor

6 UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
7 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

8
9 In re:) Case No.: # 09-31667-A-7
10 RACHAEL AND DENIS BUCKLEY,) MCN: UST-2
11 Debtor.) Date: August 31, 2009
12) Time: 9:00 am
13) Courtroom: 28, 7th Floor
14) 501 I Street, Sacramento California

15 **DECLARATION IN SUPPORT OF USTS**

16 **MOTION TO REVIEW ATTORNEYS FEES**

17 I, Rachael Buckley, swear that if called to testify, I would state the following:

- 18 1. I am the co-debtor in this bankruptcy case, along with my husband, Denis Buckley.
- 19 2. My husband and I were having financial problems, so we went to consult attorney
20 Robert Buchler of Modesto, who had been recommended to us by a friend.
- 21 3. We had one telephone consultation with Mr. Buchler and from that point forward, all
22 correspondence was through Mr. Buchler's paralegal. He said he would charge us \$2,100 to
23 represent us in a chapter 7 bankruptcy plus the filing fee of \$299. We paid him half upfront
24 before any work was done, and the balance prior to the filing of the petition.
- 25 4. In the telephone consultation I told Mr. Buchler about my husband's construction
business and my real estate business. We told him that my husband was still in a contract to

1 build a house and more specifically, that we were receiving construction loan draws from our
2 client via their construction lender for the construction of their home. The only concern he had
3 was that our bank account only reflect the allowable "cash on hand" as permitted in bankruptcy
4 at the time of filing the petition and that once the petition was filed, it didn't matter what work or
5 deposits were made. We were never informed that my husband's business would have to be shut
6 down and all work stopped once we filed. If we were aware of that, we would have never filed
7 in the middle of a contract to build a home. We did not hide anything from our attorney and were
8 assured that there were no issues in continuing to work and fulfilling the contract.

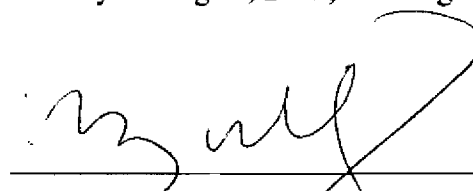
9 5. Mr. Buchler filed our bankruptcy on June 9, 2009, after we had signed the documents
10 and paid him the balance.

11 6 Our meeting of creditors was held on July 15, 2009, and my husband and I appeared
12 but Robert Buchler did not. Instead he sent an appearance attorney, who we had never met
13 before or spoken to. During the meeting the trustee asked us questions about our businesses and
14 we answered him truthfully. We were very confused because Mr. Buchler had led us to believe
15 that our businesses would not be a part of the bankruptcy, or that we needed court approval for
16 the trustee to operate a business in chapter 7. The attorney was of no help at the meeting, and he
17 did not defend us at all. He seemed just as confused as we were. The trustee continued the
18 hearing asking for bank statements regarding the business and personal, which we emailed that
19 same day following the hearing. After the hearing, I immediately called Mr. Buchler to find out
20 what was wrong with our case and how it could be fixed and he said that he would talk to the
21 special appearing attorney and get back to us. After no return call, and almost a week of me
22 trying to reach him several times each day, finally the paralegal called me and said that Mr.
23 Buchler was very busy and unable to speak to me and was also unable to help me. She said the
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1 trustee filed a motion to dismiss our case, but she seemed to think it was not a problem, that there
2 were only "typos" on the petition relating to the our businesses, nothing to be concerned about,
3 that it would be amended and fixed. Based upon how the hearing went, I knew there was more
4 to it, and that something was terribly wrong, so I demanded a telephone call back from Mr.
5 Buchler to get some answers and clarification. So it was almost a week later that I finally
6 received a call from Mr. Buchler wherein he confirmed that something did go horribly wrong at
7 the meeting but he didn't know why. He took no responsibility for what had happened, nor did he
8 seem to have any resolution. He reluctantly asked us if we wanted him to oppose the motion to
9 dismiss, stating that we could close Buckley Builders and open under another name. He did not
10 give us any advice about what went wrong or how the matter could be rectified and when I
11 pleaded for answers, he simply suggested that we find a new attorney to represent us then
12 proceeded to hang up on me in mid-conversation. He was very rude and disrespectful to me, and
13 didn't seem at all concerned that he put us in this awful position of feeling completely mis-
14 represented. That was our last conversation with him.
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16 7. Now that our case has been dismissed, we have consulted a new attorney who will file
17 a bankruptcy properly for us.

18 I swear the above is true and correct. Sworn on this 12th day of August, 2009, in Shingle
19 Springs, California.

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21 
22 Rachael Buckley, Debtor
23 efiler: antonia.darling@usdoj.gov
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